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Patricia C. Williams
Patricia C. Williams
Bankruptcy Judge

Dated: November 16th, 2012

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

In re:

LLS AMERICA, LLC,

Debtor.

No. 09-06194-PCW11

BRUCE P. KRIEGMAN, solely in
his capacity as court-appointed
Chapter 11 Trustee for LLS America,
LLC,

Plaintiff,

Adv. No. 11-80102-PCW

vs.

1140966 ALBERTA, LTD.,

Defendant.

MEMORANDUM DECISION RE:
DEFENDANT 1140966 ALBERTA,
LTD.'S MOTION TO DISMISS
(ECF NO. 9)

This adversary is one of hundreds commenced by the trustee of the LLS America, LLC ("LLS America") bankruptcy estate, which adversaries seek to recover money paid by the debtor to certain lenders or investors as part of an alleged Ponzi scheme conducted by the debtor. Defendant 1140966 Alberta, Ltd., filed a motion to dismiss on January 31, 2012, ECF No. 9.

In a similar adversary, *Kriegman v. Cooper*, No. 11-80093-PCW, a written decision was entered on July 2, 2012, ECF No. 146, regarding similar motions to dismiss and an oral decision was rendered on May 24, 2012, ECF No. 118, on the issue of

MEMORANDUM DECISION RE: . . . - Page 1

1 pleading fraud with particularity (“Previous Decision”). The issues regarding dismissal
2 raised in the subject motion are the same as those raised in the Previous Decision. Many
3 of the facts in the Previous Decision are relevant to the subject motion.

4 By affidavit of Duane Swinton (ECF No. 15), the trustee presented evidence in
5 this case that the defendant loaned or invested \$1,585,000 (CAN) and 58 promissory
6 notes were issued. In 897 distributions occurring from September 2002 to March 2009,
7 the defendant received \$192,680.20 (USD) and \$4,010,237.77 (CAN). According to the
8 trustee, the defendant filed a proof of claim in the amount of \$3,291,761 in the
9 underlying LLS America case. By declaration (ECF No. 10), Marvin Toews, on behalf
10 of the defendant, presented evidence that it was formed under the laws of Canada, does
11 not operate a business in the United States, and each promissory note listed a Canadian
12 entity as borrower with distributions only made in Canadian currency. The declaration
13 further states that the loans or investments were solicited in Canada, but no details were
14 provided regarding the manner of solicitation.

15 The grounds for dismissal in the subject motion are: (1) ineffective service of
16 process; (2) improper extraterritorial application of United States bankruptcy law; and
17 (3) failure to state the alleged fraud with particularity as required by Fed. R. Civ. P.
18 (9)(b). The reasoning regarding the denial of dismissal based on those grounds is set
19 forth in the Previous Decision and is applicable to the subject motion.

20 As in the Previous Decision, one basis for the request to dismiss is the lack of
21 personal jurisdiction. As articulated in the Previous Decision, the filing of a proof of
22 claim is a consent to jurisdiction to adjudicate that claim and the related action brought
23 by the trustee of the LLS America estate under 11 U.S.C. § 548. The reasoning regarding
24 the denial of dismissal based upon a consent to personal jurisdiction is set forth in the
25 Previous Decision and is applicable to the subject motion, which is **DENIED**. Counsel
26 for the defendant shall submit an order consistent with this decision.

27
28 ///END OF MEMORANDUM DECISION///